

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Willow Area Community Organization, Inc. Federal Tax ID: 92-0034350****Project Title:**

Willow Area Community Organization, Inc. - Willow Area Community Center Secure Storage Building

State Funding Requested: \$ 30,000**House District: 15 - H**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Construction of a facility to store emergency supplies.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$43,775**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This would fund the construction of a facility to store emergency supplies and other equipment as needed. Current Willow Area Community Organization facilities do not provide for the storage of these supplies and equipment. This facility would be unattached to other buildings ensuring access in the event of a fire or earthquake damage to the main building. Having this building and these supplies available to the community will provide a valuable resource in the event of an emergency or natural disaster such as an earthquake, flood, or forest fire. With widespread support from local aid and emergency groups this facility would provide increased safety for residents and visitors.

This request was vetoed in FY08.

This project is included in SB256 Supplemental Bill, as part of the FY08 vetoed projects. If it is funded through the supplemental bill, the difference of \$13,775 will be requested through the FY09 Capital Budget.

Project Timeline:

Summer 2008-summer 2009.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Willow Area Community Organization

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Linda Oxley
Phone Number: 907-495-2615
Address: PO Box 1027
Willow, AK 99688
Email: chair@waco-ak.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

COMMUNITY CENTER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Willow Area Community Organization

ABSTRACT

The Willow Area Community Organization wishes to improve it's ability to provide the Community Center as an emergency facility in the event of fire, flood or other local catastrophe.

Feb, 2008

STATE LEGISLATIVE GRANT REQUESTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This is a request for funding assistance in providing the Willow Community and, specifically, it's Community Center with facilities that would allow—

1. storage of equipment/supplies for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT);
2. storage of supplies (bedding etc) for the Red Cross;
3. staging of equipment to support emergency evacuation of teams from the many dog kennels in the area;
4. storage of equipment related to activities of the Community Enrichment Program.

2. ORGANIZATION

The Willow Area Community Organization (WACO) is a Community Council of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. It holds monthly meetings where matters of interest to the Willow community are discussed and agreed or otherwise through a voting process.

WACO has, as part of it purpose, the task of "*promoting the social, cultural and economic welfare of the Willow area in general.*"¹

WACO has a Board consisting of elected officers and representatives of local organizations. Any resident or property owner in Willow may vote at it's general meetings. Board positions are unpaid.

WACO activities, minutes of it's meetings and an event calendar, together with information on the activities of recognized local organizations are published on it's web site, www.waco-ak.org, and via a monthly newsletter, the *Willow Breeze*.

3. SITUATION DESCRIPTION

In addition to it's civic responsibilities, WACO also manages the Willow Community Center via a management agreement with the Mat-Su Borough, who own the building. Under this agreement WACO is responsible for managing and operating the Center.

Operational costs of the building, approximately \$50,000 in 2007 are covered by rental of the facilities and special fund-raising events, of which the most important is the Willow Winter Carnival which takes place over two weekends at the end of January/beginning of February each year.

The Center is also used for various classes and serves as a gathering point in the event of a local emergency.

4. EMERGENCY CENTER

The Community Center has been utilized as an emergency center several times over

1. WACO Bylaws, Article III, B.

the last few years, most recently for flood in August, 2006 and fire in June, 2007. The Red Cross has provided bedding and food (using the Center's kitchen) when fire and flood have threatened the area, and was prepared to do the same when the area suffered prolonged power outages this winter.

CERT has conducted exercises using a small area on the upper floor as a central point for ham radio operations proving the viability of this option in the event of emergency.

The largest concern—lack of emergency power generation—was addressed by the Legislature last year with the awarding of a grant, and we expect an emergency generator to be installed this year.

We have had several requests for storage facilities so that both the Red Cross and CERT could stage equipment and supplies in anticipation of the next emergency. The Willow Dog Musers Association have also requested storage space as part of their emergency evacuation plan for the many dog kennels in the area. The Community Center does not have such facilities, nor could they be easily constructed within the building.

5. GRANT REQUEST

The Community is looking for help in providing external storage for emergency supplies and equipment. It would also like to store some recreational equipment (ski's/gymnastic) used as part of the Mat-Su Community Enrichment Program should space be available.

The estimated cost of such a building is \$43,775.

Attachments:

Letter of support from the Red Cross

Letter of support from CERT

Letter of support from the Willow Dog Musers Association

Letter of support from the Willow Health Organization

Quotation from Anderson & Associates.

ANDERSON & ASSOCIATES

Builders and Remodelers

P.O. Box 1072 Willow, Alaska 99688
6511

Phone (907) 495-6510, Fax (907) 495-6511

6 November 2007

Pat Madigan

Re: Storage Shed at Willow Community Center

PROJECT

This project will be to build a storage shed building 12' X 57' The building will be divided into 8 separate units; 3 at 6 X 12 and 5 at 9 X 12. The 6' units will have a 3' 6" access door and the 9' units will have a roll up 8' X 7' garage door

The building will have a monolithic concrete foundation slab, T 1-11 siding and conventional 2 X 4 framing. The roof will have 29 g steel roofing

The interior of the building will be left unfinished unless other wise requested. There will be electricity to building, with 1 4' fluorescent overhead light and 1 GFI electrical circuit

There will be 4 exterior high pressure sodium photo cells lighting along the front of the building.

There is no provision for interior shelving or interior finishes.

The building will be painted, matching as closely as possible the near by Willow Community center.

COSTS

The cost for this proposal as outlined above, including all materials and labor will be \$43,775 (Forty three thousand seven hundred seventy five) dollars

This proposal will be good for 60 days. Because material prices may vary as the next building season approaches this bid proposal may vary

John Anderson

Karen Sawyer

From: WACO Secretary [sec@waco-ak.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 2:12 PM
To: Sen. Charlie Huggins; Rep. Mark Neuman
Subject: Willow CIP 2008

Attachments: capital08.pdf; andy08.pdf



capital08.pdf (8 KB) andy08.pdf (51 KB)

Please find attached WACO's grant request for this year.
Also attached is the quote from a local builder.

I will mail a copy to both of you with the letters of support.

Thank you for considering our request.
Pat Madigan.

WACO Secretary sec@waco-ak.org
Willow, Alaska

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Willow Area Community Organization, Inc.

Project Title:

Willow Area Community Organization, Inc. - Willow Area Community Center: Secure Storage Building

Legislator Name: Senator Huggins

Funding Amount: \$ 30,000

House District: 15

District Priority#: 18

Brief Summary:

Construction of a secure storage building within the Willow Area Community Center grounds.

Funding Plan:

Type of Need: One-Time Need

Prior Funding to Date:

In-kind labor for construction - value unknown. 2007

Other Funding Requests:

None

Project Description:

The Willow Area Community Center has no secured facilities for storing indoor or outdoor items and equipment. Storage facility is needed to store Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) equipment, medical equipment storage for Lions Club, Red Cross equipment, and other community equipment.

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Pat Madigan
Phone Number: 907-495-5737
Address: Willow Area Community Organization
PO Box 1027
Willow AK 99688

Representative concurs with this project.

Representative concurs with this funding level.

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

WACO

Willow Area Community Organization
Linda Oxley Chair
chair@waco-ak.org

P.O. Box 1027 • Willow • AK 99688
(907) 495-6633
www.waco-ak.org

APR 12 2007

Senator Charlie Huggins
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

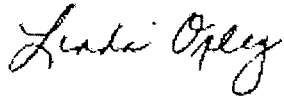
April 5, 2007

Dear Senator Huggins,

Please find enclosed the Willow Area Community Organization's (WACO)
State Legislature Grant Requests with supporting documentation.

Thank you for giving these your consideration.

Sincerely,



Linda Oxley Chair

WACO

Storage - 30,000 - WACO

Generator - 60,000 MSB

Grader Tractor -

COMMUNITY CENTER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Willow Area Community Organization

ABSTRACT

The Willow Area Community Organization has a number of ideas for improving utilization of the Community Center. Some of these can be met by local fund raising efforts or Borough grants. In several areas however, the expense is too large for purely local funding.

This document identifies several projects where costs are expected to exceed \$10,000 and seeks State assistance in bringing these to fruition.

Feb, 2007

STATE LEGISLATIVE GRANT REQUESTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This is a request for funding assistance in providing the Willow Community and, specifically, it's Community Center with—

1. A *Secure Storage Area* (our top priority);
2. An *Emergency Generator*;
3. A *Vehicle for Grounds Maintenance*.

2. ORGANIZATION

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In addition to it's civic responsibilities, WACO also manages the Willow Community Center via a management agreement with the Mat-Su Borough, who own the building. Under this agreement WACO is responsible for the operating costs of the Center, and employs a part-time Caretaker to manage the building.

The costs of the building, approximately \$30,000 in 2005 are covered by rental of the facilities and special fund-raising events, of which the most important is the Willow Winter Carnival which takes place over two weekends at the end of January/beginning of February each year.

The Center is also used for various classes and serves as a gathering point in the event of a local emergency.

3.1 Room for Improvement

One handicap for local classes is lack of storage for materials within the Center's grounds. Each instructor (indoor or outdoor) must bring all their materials for each class.

The Center stores outside tables (purchased in 2005) in a disused (donated) shed, the Garden Club stores it's equipment in another shed. Storage space within the building is taken up either with materials directly related to WACO's activities, or stacked in

1. WACO Bylaws, Article III, B.

areas originally intended as public space (Lions/Seniors).

As a cost saving measure, WACO are considering purchase of "Porta Potties" rather than rental. These are used throughout the summer and could also be used at the Willow Winter Carnival. WACO has no facility for storing these however. WACO would also like to purchase a garden tractor or similar to help with grounds maintenance or minor snow plowing tasks; again, WACO has no facility for storage.

WACO would like to erect/site a secure storage building of a type similar, but smaller, to those used by "rent-a-storage" businesses within it's grounds. This would allow both WACO, class instructors and local organizations individual storage space, either free of charge or for a small rental. The two existing sheds could then be removed.

Estimated cost: \$40,000. (Estimate from local builder).

3.2 Emergency Generator

In 2006 the Center was used as a gathering point for flood victims and support organizations for over a week. During that time there were several power failures, one lasting for more than 6 hours.

Willow Elementary School is the designated emergency center for Willow. Use of the school can cause more problems that it solves however, and the choice of location is left to the incident commander. If the Community Center is to be used as an emergency center it will need some form a back-up power; this could take the form of a fixed generator (in the "secure building" perhaps) or a portable generator that might be of use for other types of disaster.

Estimated cost: \$100,000. (Estimate from MSB electrician for a fixed generator, wiring and labor).

3.3 Grounds Maintenance Equipment

WACO's grounds consist of a large parking area to the east (road side) and a sports/kids/picnic area to the west (lake side). Depending on conditions, equipment must be erected (volley ball and picnic areas) or grounds cleared (snowfall, particularly around the entrance; normal maintenance, for example weed whacking, removal of windfall, outside litter). This could be made considerably easier with the acquisition of a garden tractor or ATV. WACO already has a small trailer, but with the addition of a plow, minor snow plowing tasks could keep the Center and Library entrances clear. A spreader attachment would also help with sanding icy areas.

Estimated cost: \$10,000.

4. Local Support for Projects (see attached)

- Willow Area Community Organization
- Red Cross
- Sunshine Health Clinic
- Willow CERT
- Willow Health Organization LLC

ANDERSON & ASSOCIATES

Builders and Remodelers

P.O. Box 1072 Willow, Alaska 99688
6511

Phone (907) 495-6510, Fax (907) 495-

10 March 2007

Pat Madigan

Re: Storage Shed Building at Willow Community Center
With a chain like protective fence.

PROJECT

This project will be to build a storage shed building 12 X 48. The building will be divided into 6 separate units; 2 at 6 X 12 and 4 at 9 X 12. The 6' units will have a 3' 6" personal door access and the larger units will have a typical 8' X 7 garage style overhead door. The building will have a monolithic concrete slab foundation, T1-11 siding and conventional 2 X 4 wall framing. Snow loading on the roof system will be build to 100 # TCLL and will have a 29 g metal roof. The interior of the building will be left unfinished unless other wise requested. There will be electricity provided to the building with 1 over head interior fluorescent light and 1 interior receptacle in each unit. Exterior lighting will consist of 3 high pressure photo cell lights with a manual override.

The exterior of the building will be enclosed / protected by an 8' high chain link fence approximately 32' X 60'. There will be one 8' wide sliding gate to access the building

COSTS

The cost for the building as outlined above for all materials and labor will be \$38,700
(Thirty eight thousand seven hundred dollars)

This proposal will be good for 60 days. Because material prices may vary as the building season progresses this bid price may reflect those changes

John Anderson



Senator Huggins and Representative Neuman
Alaska State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801

March 22, 2007

Gentleman,

The Mat-Su Regional Medical Center has developed a foundation called Mat-Su Health Foundation. The Mat-Su Health Foundation decided to disperse funds via grants to Valley communities for health promotion. A group has formed in Willow called the Willow Health Organization (WHO). The purpose of this group is to facilitate health related activities/programs, cooperation with local clubs, organizations and individuals that are planning activities for Willow residents.

The Willow Health Organization is recognized as a *Local Organization* of the Willow Area Community Organization, and has a seat on it's board.

The Willow Community Center is the nexus for many events in the community. While some of these are social, many also fall within the umbrella of activities that the Willow Health Organization will support. One constraint on local activities is the lack of storage facilities within the Community Center property. Accordingly, the Willow Health Organization would like to add their support to any requests that might see additional storage provided within the near future.

We are also aware that you are being asked for help in providing emergency power to the Community Center. As an health organization, it will be obvious that we also support any assistance you might offer in the regard.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Nina Davidson'.

Nina Davidson RN
Chair
Willow Health Organization
ninadean@mtaonline.net



Ervin Dedeker, Leader

Ferry Anderson, Secretary

B. J. Eldred, Treasurer

WILLOW COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Senator Huggins and Representative Neuman
Alaska State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801

March 22, 2007

Gentleman,

If you will bear with me—

Consider the date is January 20, 2010; it is -20 degrees in Willow, you are in Juneau doing what the Legislature does. It's 11:00pm., most folks are in bed. Suddenly there is a tremendous noise and then the earth shakes violently for one, two, three and a half minutes. There are dozens of homes demolished all over the Mat-Su Valley, bridges are down on both sides of Willow. Willow is on its own. Outside help is tied up with their own communities and road and rail access is gone and will not be restored for days.

Emergency Services, Fire, EMS and CERT respond with the Community Center being the planned and expected recovery center.

There is no electrical power due to power lines being down. Rail and road services in and out of Willow are nonexistent. The Community Center has no heat, no light, no water, otherwise it's fully functional and can be a refuge for hundreds of injured and homeless, but it's dead and cold at -20 degrees.

You are in Juneau and more than willing to help, but it will take many days for help to come.

You can really help us now. An adequate generator with automatic switching equipment in place is the answer. The need is vital.

None of us know when the devastating disaster will hit, maybe not on January 20, 2010, maybe on April 15, 2007.

Willow is very vulnerable and the need is real.

Sincerely,

/s/Ervin Dedeker

Ervin Dedeker

Lead

Willow Community Emergency Response Team



**American
Red Cross**
of Alaska

931 W Commercial Drive
Wasilla, AK 99654
907.357.6060 phone
907.357.6062 fax
alaska.redcross.org

March 13, 2007

WACO
P.O. Box 1027
Willow, AK 99688

This letter is written to recommend the acquisition of a generator for the Willow Area Community Organization (WACO) building.

During the August 2006 Mat Su Floods, the American Red Cross used the WACO building as a shelter, a service center, a feeding center and information center. On the first night the shelter was open we lost power for several hours. Not only was it inconvenient, but it was dangerous to our shelter workers and our clients. Personal safety was jeopardized and caused allot of inconvenience. They were unable to find the bathrooms, provide heat, and make coffee. Had this been during the winter, this would really have been a severe problem.

If the WACO building had a generator, safety and convenience would not have been an issue. Because of their more remote location, a generator should be imperative for their community safety and shelter in any type of emergency.

Sincerely,

Nancy R. Hall
District Manager

Together, we can save a life

Emergency Generator for Willow Community Center Bruce Wiegman

From: Bruce Wiegman <BWiegman@sunshineclinic.org>
Subject: Emergency Generator for Willow Community Center
Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2007 11:02:04 -0800
To: Pat Madigan <pmadigan@box.rraonline.net>
 From Bwiegman@sunshineclinic.org Tue Mar 20 11:17:30 2007

Pat,

I hope it makes it through this time.

Take care,

Bruce

From: Bruce Wiegman
To: 'Pat'
Cc: Doralynn Issel
Subject: Emergency Generator for Willow Community Center

Pat,

I just received an email from Dwaine Schult, our head of maintenance, regarding our support for your need of an emergency generator.

I fully support your need for such a generator. I can specifically address why you need one.

I am specifically aware of the electrical power situation in Willow because we have a clinic there. Further, right now, we are working to install an emergency generator at that clinic because we experience numerous electrical outages there throughout the year. Both Willow Community Center and Sunshine Community Health Center serve the community. This is especially true in times of emergency as you are an Emergency Shelter - exactly the time that power would be lost. The need to be able to serve and shelter community members at such a time is tremendous. Food, shelter and medical services could be at a critical level. Of course, we can hope that such emergencies will not come but last summer's flooding was an example that they do come. We need to be able to respond when they do. It was fortunate that last summer's event was as short-lived as it was. The flooding does illustrate, however, your need to run in emergencies and, to do so, you need to have power (an emergency generator). You need it to heat the building so that you can shelter and feed the people in the community.

Even without emergencies, your organization, like our clinic, needs to

Emergency Generator for Willow Community Center Bruce Wiegman

be able to reliably be able to serve the community during times of power outages - even of short duration. The disruption to your organization and the community caused by power outages can be eliminated by your having the generator.

Sunshine Community Health Center heartily supports your need for a generator of sufficient size and power to accommodate your current needs and your estimated needs in the future.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wiegman
 Executive Director
 Sunshine Community Health Center
 (907) 733-9214 phone
 (907) 733-1735 fax

WACO

Willow Area Community Organization

P.O Box 1027 • Willow • AK 99688
(907) 495-6633

Minutes of Meeting

Date: April 2, 2007

Occasion: General Meeting

Called to Order: 7:09pm

QUORUM

There was a quorum present for a general meeting

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as is.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the general meeting held on March 5, 2007 were approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Major achievement for the year was establishing a web-site www.waco-ak.org along with a list server for the members of WACO.
- Letter and resolution received from Juneau with regards to amending the Alaskan Constitution.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- The report for March was presented.

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT

The carpet was not installed when we expected but it has now been ordered.

•

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Presented written annual report.
- April 6th will be Family Movie Night and the movie will be "Happy Feet".
- MSB sent a letter to the State requesting some of the Airport Land in Willow.
- Jim Dukes will be inspecting the electrical appliances at the Community Center, as our MEA costs are so high,

CARNIVAL

Linda Oxley:

- The next Carnival meeting will be 7pm on the April 16th.
- The "Volunteer Honor Dinner" will be April 14th. It will be a potluck and all volunteers in Willow are invited to attend.

TRAILS

Steve Charles:

- Trail grooming is coming to an end and all the \$8000 grant was spent. As always Bill Luth did a superb job.
- There was a question about whose responsibility it was to pay for the easements around the Frying Pan Lake parcel that is being given to the State. It will not be Willow that has to pay.
- The Copper Timber Sale is going ahead unless someone can file an injunction by April 11th.
- A meeting was held in Willow of all the trail groups involved with trails from Big Lake to Petersville, to encourage cooperation as opposed to competition for grant money.

CERT

Erv Dedeker:

- Received a grant of \$500 from Mat-Su Health Foundation for medical supplies.
- Took part in a major disaster exercise (a train was blown up by terrorists here in Willow). All the major agencies took part.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Scholarship Grant request from Laura Herman:**

WACO received a grant request from Laura Herman with all the appropriate documentation.

MOTION: Pat Madigan moved that WACO award a scholarship grant in the amount of \$100 to Laura Herman. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

2. **State Grant Requests:**

The document describing the State Grant Requests was handed out.

MOTION: Pat Madigan moved that WACO endorse the State Grant Requests as presented. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed with one objection.

3. **Change to Post Office Hours:**

MOTION: Robin Hiebert moved that WACO write a letter to the Post Office requesting that they leave the hours as is. The motion was seconded.

AMENDMENT: It was moved that the letter also request that the Willow Post Office get the help that they requested. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The amendment passed unanimously.

VOTE: The amended motion passed unanimously.

4. **Railroad Corridor Committee:**

Shae Kosmolsky requested that the Chair set up an ad-hoc committee to gather information about Railroad Corridor 3 and present it to the people of Willow. The

Chair agreed to set up the committee with Shae Kosmolsky as Chair.

5. Elections:

The Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the candidates for the those positions up for election as follows -

- Vice-Chair Norm Wakeman
- Treasurer Michael Bishop
- SE Representative Mary Shreves
- SE Alternate Jane Newman
- NW Representative Kristie Mingo
- NW Alternate Scott Purkey

VOTE: All candidates were approved unanimously.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Doyle Holmes:

- Golf Tournament April 7th at WCC.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Claire Fitzgaird:

- Final notice on the Chocolate Indulgence, Apr 19.

LIONS

Lynn Phillips:

- Final Skate Night this April at the Willow Elementary School.
- Are providing breakfast on the day of the Golf Tournament.

SENIORS

Dee Pralle:

- Awaiting pre-development grant prior to proceeding with acquisition of 20 acres for next stage of senior housing.

SHE-MON-SUN

Bobbie Lewis:

- All proceeds from the quilt raffle go towards scholarships for high school students.
- Annual tea May 5th at WCC will be a "Mexican Tea".

WHO

Nina Davidson:

- Announced the Willow Health Fair on April 28 and solicited volunteers to assist (notices are posted around Community);
- Is supporting the Elementary School Health Fair, Apr 20.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Donation:**

Robert and Donna Anselm donated \$300 for 2 Clean-up Day bicycles in memory of their grandson Kevin Barner and Pat Newman.

2. **Easter Service:**

There will be a "Sunrise Service" at the Hilltop Assembly at 7am with a brunch afterwards for Easter.

3. **Community Enrichment Program:**

MSB has granted Willow \$3000 for the Community Enrichment Program.

As part of this program there will be a "Ski Bonanza" on April 15th, for people of all ages to try out X-Country Skiing and also a session of 6 classes of Chi Kung starting April 16th.

4. **Carnival Theme:**

The winner of the vote for the next Carnival theme is the Arctic Hare.

Next Meeting: May 7, 2007 at 7pm

Adjourned: 8:30pm

SUBMITTED:

Pat Madigan

Date

APPROVED:

Date

Karen Sawyer

From: Pat Madigan [pmadigan@pobox.mtaonline.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2007 10:53 AM
To: Karen Sawyer
Subject: Grant Requests 07

Attachments: grant.pdf



grant.pdf (9 KB)

Hi Karen,

Attached is a draft of WACO's grant requests.
I am still working on the costs, but wanted to get something to you.
Any comments or suggestions that you have, I would appreciate.

Thank you.
Pat.

--

Pat Madigan 907/495-5737
Willow, Alaska

pmadigan@pobox.mtaonline.net

COMMUNITY CENTER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Willow Area Community Organization

ABSTRACT

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Feb, 2007

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2. An *Emergency Generator*;
3. A *Vehicle for Grounds Maintenance*.

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1. WACO Bylaws, Article III, B.

areas originally intended as public space (Lions/Seniors).

As a cost saving measure, WACO are considering purchase of "Porta Potties" rather than rental. These are used throughout the summer and could also be used at the Willow Winter Carnival. WACO has no facility for storing these however. WACO would also like to purchase a garden tractor or similar to help with grounds maintenance or minor snow plowing tasks; again, WACO has no facility for storage.

WACO would like to erect/site a secure storage building of a type similar, but smaller, to those used by "rent-a-storage" businesses within it's grounds. This would allow both WACO, class instructors and local organizations individual storage space, either free of charge or for a small rental. The two existing sheds could then be removed.

Estimated cost: \$30,000.

3.2 Emergency Generator

In 2006 the Center was used as a gathering point for flood victims and support organizations for over a week. During that time there were several power failures, one lasting for more than 6 hours.

Willow Elementary School is the designated emergency center for Willow. Use of the school can cause more problems that it solves however, and the choice of location is left to the incident commander. If the Community Center is to be used as an emergency center it will need some form a back-up power; this could take the form of a fixed generator (in the "secure building" perhaps) or a portable generator that might be of use for other types of disaster.

Estimated cost: \$100,000 (for a fixed generator).

3.3 Grounds Maintenance Equipment

WACO's grounds consist of a large parking area to the east (road side) and a sports/kids/picnic area to the west (lake side). Depending on conditions, equipment must be erected (volley ball and picnic areas) or grounds cleared (snowfall, particularly around the entrance; normal maintenance, for example weed whacking, removal of windfall, outside litter). This could be made considerably easier with the acquisition of a garden tractor or ATV. WACO already has a small trailer, but with the addition of a plow, minor snow plowing tasks could keep the Center and Library entrances clear. A spreader attachment would also help with sanding icy areas.

Estimated cost: \$8,000—10,000.

Karen Sawyer

From: Ron Swanson [Ron.Swanson@matsugov.us]
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 12:14 PM
To: Karen Sawyer
Subject: RE: Willow Community Center

Absolutely the Mat-Su Borough. The last thing we need is a bunch of well meaning residents installing the generator and re-wiring the building themselves.

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Sawyer [mailto:Karen_Sawyer@legis.state.ak.us]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 12:10 PM
To: Ron Swanson
Cc: Beth Schneider
Subject: RE: Willow Community Center
Importance: High

Thanks, Ron. I appreciate your quick response to our deadlines! I want to confirm that we will be making the Mat-Su Borough the grant recipient for the Willow Community Center Generator project. Is this correct? Or do we make WACO the grant recipient?

Thanks again!

*Karen Sawyer, Staff
 Office of Senator Charlie Huggins*

907-465-3878
 907-465-3265 Fax

Alaska State Capitol, Room 119
 Juneau AK 99801-1182
 Karen_Sawyer@legis.state.ak.us

From: Ron Swanson [mailto:Ron.Swanson@matsugov.us]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 11:41 AM
To: Karen Sawyer
Cc: Beth Schneider
Subject: Willow Community Center

Karen,

Beth Schneider asked me to contact you about a request for a generator for the Community Center in Willow.

The Community Center and the land it is on is owned by the Borough. We have a joint operating agreement with the Willow Area Community Organization(WACO) (community council) for operating and maintaining the facility. The community center has a large auditorium, commercial kitchen, offices, and a care taker apartment. The Willow Public Library is also located within the facility.

The Community Center is a designated Emergency Shelter and has been used for that purpose many times. For example, the Red Cross used the Center as an emergency shelter during the rain and flood disaster last fall. We (the MSB and WACO) have a cooperative agreement with the Red Cross to use the facility for such events. The Borough has designated the Center as an alternate Emergency Communication and Operations Center.

We do strongly support the request for funds for an emergency generator. We feel that \$75,000 will adequately cover the cost of the generator (800 amp service) that will provide power to light and heat the center and keep the kitchen

4/11/2007

operational. The requested funds would not only cover the cost of generator, but also provide funding for the construction of a concrete pad, all necessary wiring, switches, etc. to make the electrical fully operational in an emergency situation. The generator does not need to have its own storage building, but it will be located in a safe and secured area.

The operating agreement we have with WACO specifies that the Borough is responsible for all major components of the building. This includes all the electrical service. If funds are available the Borough will be responsible for the contracting and correct installation of the generator and all its components.

Please let me know if you need further information.

Ron Swanson
Community Development Director
(907) 745-9868

PS Say hi to Jody for me.